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Form of Prayer, &c.

1688.

Translated from the *Dutch*.

O God who hast commanded us to make our Address to thee in Times of Trouble, with this Promise, That thou wilt deliver us; To the end that we may render our most humble Thanks unto thee: We prostrate our selves in an extraordinary manner before the Throne of thy Holy Majesty, to implore thy Succour from on high, in this present Conjunction, to travel for the Deliverance of thy Church. Thou knowest, O God, how many Evils they have been made to suffer hitherto, and the Designs wherein the earthly Potentates have combined to destroy and root them out, if it were possible. from off the Face of the Earth. We may say with *David*, *Why do the nations rage, and wherefore do the Kings of the Earth, and the Princes, take Consultations together against the Eternal, and against his Anointed?* Yea, great God, 'tis against thee they are set, since they would destroy the Truth of thy Word, and set up an Idolatrous Worship, which is abominable in thy Eyes. Look down, O God, from the highest Heavens, upon the Afflictions of thy People, and come down from the high Throne of thy Glory, to overthrow and confound their Counsels and Combinations, which tend to no less than the Oppression of thy poor Children, who groan under the heavy Load of Persecution.

Assemble the Kings and Princes that serve thee in Purity, to defend thy Cause; make them Victorious over thy Enemies; and do thou, Great God of Hosts, make their Hands fit for War, and surround them with thy Protection. In Particular, we pray thee, vouchsafe thy Grace and Favour to thy Servant the Prince of *ORANGE*, who hath been particularly Affected with the Reproach and Injuries done, and which they would still do to thy Church: Maintain his Cause, seeing it is thine own; and Grant him thy Favour, that he may be Victorious over his Enemies. His Enterprize is Dangerous, but what can he not do, if sustained by thy good Hand? Command the Sea and its Boisterous Waves to be Still before him; bind up Contrary Winds, and let none Blow but what may be favourable to him.

Thou, O Great God! who sometimes saidst to *Joshua*, by thy Servant *Moses*, *Be strong and of good Courage*, do thou strengthen and Envigate this Great PRINCE, this Leader of thy People, this Great *Joshua*, whom thou hast Raised up to us, as another *Zerubbabel*, to build up thy *Jerusalem*; That he may be girded with thy Power and Might, That he may be Unafraid in the greatest of Dangers; That he may have the Strength of *Sampson*, the Success of *Gideon*, the Victories of *David*; And that finally after the signal Victories, that thou shalt Crown him with, he may be a Prince Peaceable as *Solomon*: Approve, O Lord, the Blessing which we joyn in with him:

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“ The Eternal, (O Great PRINCE) answer thee in the Day of Trouble ; The Name of the God of *Jacob*, be thy Safe Refuge, and send thee Succour from his Holy Place, and Sustain thee out of *Sion*, and remember all the Offerings which he giveth thee, according to thy Heart, and fulfil all thy Counsel.

O Lord, thou knowest, That thou broughtest this great PRINCE into the World, as it were by a Miracle; thou hast Preserved him by the same Miraculous Power: Thou hast been his God from his Mothers Womb, Thou hast laid thy Protecting Hands on his Knees, and Preserved him from the Hands of his Enemies; Thou hast hitherto wrought Great Things by his Valour and Courage; Thy People look upon him as the Pillar of thy Church; And wouldest thou, Great God, Deprive them of this Support, which in this Unhappy Time is all our Consolation? Remember, O Eternal God, the Travels of his Fore fathers, for the Establishment and Maintaining of thy Holy Gospel; they have Experienced in a thousand Occasions, That thou hast been their God, Thou hast Preserved them in Wars, in Sieges, in Battles, and in a thousand Dangers.

We hope, Lord, of thy Great Mercy, That thou wilt still Protect, with thy Great Power, this PRINCE, who has many Formidable Enemies against his Head. Shorten, O Lord, Shorten rather our Days than those of so Precious a Person. Let thy Holy Angels Encamp round about him; Make them fight for him, as once thou didst in the Days of *Sennacherib*, to Destroy those Idolaters, who would Oppose themselves against thy Armies; And Lend, O Lord, the Guards of thy Grace and thy Truth, That this Prince may Accomplish his Just Enterprize, and that thy Church may set up its Banners, and sing a Holy Song, *God is Arisen, and his Enemies are Scattered; Hallelujah, Hallelujah! Salvation and Power belong to our Eternal God.*

Bear up, Heavenly Father, the Heart of his Illustrious Consort, Her Royal Highness, the PRINCESS of ORANGE, in this Tryal; Fortifie her against all the Fears, which may seize her Royal Heart; and say to her Soul, That thou wilt give Deliverance to her Spouse, and that no Evil shall come near his Tent. Hear, Holy Father, the fervent Prayers, which she sendeth up before thy Presence; That thy Good Spirit may be with her, to Comfort her in this Tryal; That none may come near her Sacred Person, but the bringers of Good Tidings: Thou wilt do it, O Lord, seeing thou hast filled her Heart with the Fear of thy great Name: She hopeth in thee, Grant that she may never be put to Confusion: Preserve her in Life, in Health, to the End, That being raised up to the High Dignity, which we so ardently Wish, She may be a Nursing-Mother of thy Church, the *Esther* of the Age, a Blessed *Mary*, and bring forth another Saviour to the World, who may Defend thy Church, and cause thy Gospel to be carried to the utmost Ends of the Earth.

Alas! O Lord, we might expect all this Grace with Assurance, were we not great Sinners: But as we find our selves extreamly Culpable, we are in continual Fears; strengthen us, O Eternal God, by thy Holy Mercy, blot out our great Sins, for the sake of our Saviour; in whose Name we call upon thee, and in whose Words we further Pray: *Our Father, &c.*

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